Sanskrit Lesson From the Vajra Prajna Paramita Sutra

तेन खन् पृनः समयेनायुष्पान्सुभ्तिस्तस्यामेव पर्षदि संनिपतितोऽभूत्संनिषण्णः।

TENA KHALU PUNAḤ SAMAVENĀYUṢMĀN-SUBHŪTIS-TASYĀM-EVA PARṢADI SAḤNIPATTITO'BHŪT-SAḤNIṢAṇṇAḤ / "At that time the Elder Subhuti was present in the assembly, sitting down."

This lesson continues to discuss the sentence begun in Vajra Bodhi Sea issue #196. That lesson considered how rules of external sandhi (sound combination) are illustrated in the sentence. The rules of vasarga-sandhi are represented by a number of examples. To review:

punas + samayena → punah samayena; subhūtis + tasyām → subhūtih tasyām subhūtis tasyam; samnipatitas + abhūt → samnipatito'bhūt; samnisannas → samnisannah. Issue #197 began discussion of the sentence proper, analyzing tena khalu punah samayena "at that time." The full declension of the demonstrative pronoun ta-, the base of tena, was given, along with discussion of āyuṣmān "(the) Elder." Issue #198 analyzed āyuṣmān in more detail, and began discussion of the operation of internal sandhi rules illustrated in the sentence. Issue #199 considered the three meanings of the name Subhūti. Issues #200-208 were devoted to internal sandhi rules. Issue #208 concluded all the external and internal sandhi rules which are fundamental to the study of Sanskrit, not just in this sentence.

In the sentence under consideration, the next word group is tasyam-eva parsadi"in the assembly." eva is an invariable enclitic particle that adds emphasis but is not necessarily translated in English. If translated, its meaning is something like "just" or "very," as in "that very assembly." tasyam is the locative singular feminine form of the demonstrative adjective, whose stem form, like that of tena, is ta-. It appeared on the chart given in issue #197. tasyam agrees with parsadi which is locative singular of the feminine noun parsad "assembly."

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